

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CULTURAL INITIATIVES

REF: STATE 096982

THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING CULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE SUBMITTED. THEY ARE AT THE BILATERAL LEVEL, RATHER THAN REGIONAL, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BRAZIL'S UNIQUE CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC HERITAGE AND THE STATE OF ITS DEVELOPMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND POTENTIAL WITHIN THE AMERICAS.

1. THE COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE WILL RECOMMEND IN ITS NEXT PROGRAM PROPOSAL AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GRANTS FOR BOTH BRAZILIAN AND AMERICAN STUDENTS, AND BRAZIL-IAN AND AMERICAN SCHOLARS, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES DISCIPLINES WHICH OFFER THE MOST EFFECTIVE CHANNELS FOR INCREASED, LONG-TERM INTELLECTUAL AND ARTISTIC COOPERATION.

2. ALTHOUGH THE PARTNERS FOR THE AMERICAS HAS PROMOTED NUMEROUS PROJECTS THAT HAVE STRENGTHENED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR STATES AND THOSE IN BRAZIL, EVEN GREATER EFFECTIVENESS COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH INCREASED SUPPORT TO THE PARTNERS STAFF IN WASHINGTON AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE OR MORE

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COORDINATORS IN BRAZIL. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE ACTIVITY EXPANDED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT, PERMITTING MORE BRAZILIANS TO ENGAGE IN THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. AND INITIATING SIMILAR ACTIVITIES IN BRAZIL BY AMERICANS.

3. WE RECOMMEND CONSIDERATION OF A PROJECT PERHAPS

ANNUAL OR SEMI-ANNUAL IN FREQUENCY, WHEREBY OUTSTANDING BRAZILIAN CREATIVE THINKERS, WRITERS AND OTHER INTELLECTUALS WOULD MEET FOR SEVERAL DAYS WITH THEIR U.S. COUNTERPARTS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS AND INTEREST OF COMMON CONCERN. SUCH A U.S.-BRAZILIAN "ENCOUNTER", WHILE IT MIGHT BE FUNDED AND ORGANIZED THROUGH GRANT SUPPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT, WOULD BETTER BE OUTSIDE OF GOVERNMENT CHANNELS AND HELD AT A PLACE SUCH AS ASPEN OR AIRLIE HOUSE IN THE U. S. AND SOME SIMILAR LOCATION IN BRAZIL. THE CONFERENCE SITE COULD BE ROTATED ANNUALLY. AN AD HOC BINATIONAL SECRETARIAT COULD BE ESTABLISHED AT EACH CONFERENCE TO PREPARE THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT CONFERENCE. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND DIALOG AT A PARTICULAR CONFERENCE COULD INCLUDE THOSE OF VITAL NATIONAL CONCERN TO EACH NATION SUCH AS ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT OR ECONOMIC ISSUES, OR THE FOCUS FOR THE CONFERENCES MIGHT BE ON THE CREATIVE AND ARTISTIC ENDEAVORS OF EACH NATION.

4. OUTSTANDING QUALITY OF THE PRIVATE EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM WOULD BE ENHANCED IF ADDITIONAL FELLOWSHIPS COULD BE OFFERED TO BRAZILIANS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF DISCUSSIONS AMONG FORMER BRAZILIAN FELLOWS WHO HAVE FORMED AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO OBTAIN FUNDS FOR TRAVEL OF ADDITIONAL FELLOWS TO U.S. SUCH A COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO BE A FACILITATIVE ORGANIZATION FOR CREATING TWO-WAY EXCHANGE UNDER THE PROGRAM, WHEREBY U.S. CITIZENS OF SIMILAR CAREER LEVELS AND INTERESTS

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TO THOSE OF BRAZILIANS WOULD SPEND A YEAR IN BRAZIL.

5. UNDERSTAND FROM RALPH SMUCKLER OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY THAT DEPARTMENT HAS ASSISTED IN FUNDING COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES IN U.S. TO STUDY ESTABLISHMENT OF LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS OF U.S. UNIVERSITIES WITH THOSE ABROAD. WE URGE THAT SUCH PROGRAMS BE ENCOURAGED IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY IN ORDER THAT PRODUCTIVE LINKAGES BE CREATED BETWEEN U.S. AND BRAZILIAN INSTITUTIONS.

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